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NewsNotes

President's Notes

Paulo Steinberg, NCTM, VMTA State President

Dear Fellow Music Teachers:

I hope the first two months of 2015 have brought to you joy, inspiring music, and much success! Talking about success... I recently attended the MTNA Southern Division Competitions at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. Our State did so well! I am so proud of our students who performed beautifully! Congratulations to them and to their teachers! We had 6 winners (1st place), who will advance to the final round, performing during the MTNA National Conference in Las Vegas at the end of March:

- Junior Composition: Kevin Su, student of Marjorie Lee;
- Junior Performance String: Jason Hwang (cello), student of Dana McComb
- Senior Performance Voice: Nikole James (soprano), student of Margaret McNulty
- Senior Performance Woodwind: Drake Stoughton (sax), student of Timothy Roberts
- Senior Piano Duet: Katie Bode/Muli Yu, students of Marjorie Lee and Rosita Mang
- Young Artist Performance Piano: Min Ji Lee, student of John O'Connor

We also had 4 Honorable Mentions:

- Junior Performance Piano: Eric Lin, student of Marjorie Lee
- Junior Performance Woodwind: Jean Kim (oboe), student of Yeong Kim
- Senior Performance Piano: Evelyn Mo, student of Thomas Mastroianni and John O'Connor
- Young Artist Performance Woodwind: Jacob Moyer (clarinet), student of Garrick Zoeter

I am so glad I got to visit your association in 2014. Thanks to all the chapters who welcomed and fed me (with great food, beautiful music and/or interesting discussions). You can't imagine how much I enjoyed visiting you, and I hope you will also take the time to attend the great programs offered by your chapter this year. A few associations are located close to each other (within an hour), which would facilitate some exchange

between them. All you have to do is sending an email to their president to ask for their schedule.

As I said before, I am always open to suggestions. If you have any concerns, do not hesitate to email me. I am not any kind of savior, but I am interested in helping our association GROW which, in turn, contributes to our own growth. YOU ARE IMPORTANT TO THIS ORGANIZATION and I value your feedback and comments.

I hope to see you at the National Conference in Las Vegas. If not, please make an effort to attend our Annual State Conference at Wintergreen Resort this summer. You will be glad you came! ■

VMTA ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2015 BE INSPIRED!

Susan Atkins, VMTA President-elect

Join us at beautiful Wintergreen Resort for J VMTA's Annual Conference, July 16–19, 2015. Everyone said it couldn't be done, but this conference just may be even better than last year's. In coordination with the Wintergreen Summer Music Festival and Academy, there will be something for everyone, including your family and friends. Experience six concerts in the relaxing atmosphere of the Wintergreen Resort. Attend inspiring workshops, master classes and network with other music teachers. Enjoy world-class meals in a breath-taking location. Or, take advantage of the many amenities offered at the resort such as golf, tennis, swimming, hiking, and more. I encourage everyone to stay for the entire conference—Thursday night through Sunday morning. Each day has worthwhile and memorable events you won't want to miss!

Our featured speaker is Barry Green, author of *The Inner Game of Music*, who will be staying for the entire conference and presenting two workshops designed to inspire and motivate. Our guest artists Elisabeth Adkins and Edward Newman will perform a recital Thursday night, July 16. The conference is capitalizing on a Schubert theme with a Michael White lecture on Friday morning (Schubert Piano Music) and a vocal master class focusing on Schubert lieder on Friday afternoon. On Friday night a symphony concert featuring the VMTA Concerto

(VMTA Annual Conference... continued on page 9)

Piano4-té

including music by Bach, Rachmaninoff,
Grieg, and Barber

Saturday, April 11, 2015
2 pm

Steinway Piano Gallery
Wendell E. Eaton Recital Hall
11611 Old Georgetown Road
Rockville, MD 20852



STEINWAY & SONS



~ featuring ~

The James Madison University Piano Faculty



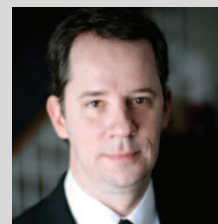
Gabriel Dobner
USA



Lori Piitz
Canada



Eric Ruple
USA



Paulo Steinberg
(VMTA President) Brazil

JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY

School of
Music

880 S. Main Street, MSC 7301
Harrisonburg, VA 22807
(540) 568-6714
www.jmu.edu/music

2015 Conference: Schedule

VMTA CONFERENCE: CELEBRATING 50 YEARS!

Presented in conjunction with the Wintergreen Summer Music Festival and Academy

This schedule includes only VMTA Conference events. The schedule is subject to last minute changes, so stay updated by visiting the VMTA website at www.virginiamta.org. For a complete Wintergreen Summer Music Festival schedule, visit the Wintergreen Performing Arts website at www.wintergreenperformingarts.org. All VMTA members (including all conference attendees) will receive the WSMF Ticket Booklet by mail at the beginning of May. The WSMF runs from Monday, July 6–Sunday, August 2, and it will include more than 200 events and performances. Tickets for all WSMF paid events go on sale at 9:00 AM on Monday, May 4. Pricing is subject to change; check your conference book when you arrive.

Thursday, July 16—VMTA Conference schedule begins

- 10:00–3:00 VMTA Presidents Summit (Windsong)
- 3:30–5:00 Conference Registration (Mountain Inn Lobby)
- 5:00–6:30 Executive Board Meeting and Dinner (Windsong)
- 7:30–9:30 Concert Artist Recital—Elisabeth Adkins and Edward Newman (Dunlop)

Friday, July 17

- 8:00–9:00 Conference Registration (Mountain Inn Lobby)
- 8:00–9:00 VMTA Continental Breakfast (Ballroom)
- 9:30–11:30 Workshop #1—Michael White—*Schubert's Piano Music* (Dunlop)
- 11:00–5:00 Exhibit Hall Open (Ballroom Lobby)
- 11:15–12:30 Workshop #2—Barry Green—*The Inner Game of Music* (Ballroom)
- 12:45–1:45 Lunch on your own
- 2:00–3:30 Workshop #3—Ted Cooper—*The Blank Slate: First-Year Piano Technique* (Ballroom)
- 2:00–3:00 Masterclass/Vocal Intensive—Arianna Zukerman, Soprano (Dunlop Pavilion)
- 3:45–4:15 Workshop #4—Ann Cyptar, M.S., CCC–SLP—*Protecting and Healing the Voice (and the Miracle of the Straw)* (Ballroom)

Saturday, July 18

- 8:00–9:00 Conference Registration (Skyline)
- 8:00–9:00 VMTA Continental Breakfast (Skyline)
- 8:30–9:45 VMTA Business Meeting (Skyline)
- 9:00–3:30 Exhibit Hall open (Skyline)
- 10:00–11:30 Workshop #5—Barry Green—*Bringing Music to Life and Mastery of Music* (Skyline)
- 11:45–12:45 Book Signing—(Skyline) and Lunch on your own
- 11:45–12:45 Collegiate Chapter meeting (Pryors Porch)
- 12:45–1:45 Commissioned Composer Concert—Brian Throckmorton “Silent Silent Night” (Skyline)
- 2:00–3:30 Academy Concert—*Schubert Lieder featuring Academy Voice Students* (Dunlop)
- 2:00–3:30 IMTF Meeting (Pryors Porch)
- 3:45–5:15 Workshop #6—Phillip Keveren—*Supplemental Repertoire That Inspires and Prepares* (Skyline)
- 5:15–5:45 Pre-Concert Talk with Erin Freeman (Dunlop)
- 6:00–8:00 Concert—Wintergreen Festival Orchestra, Erin Freeman, Conductor (Dunlop)
- 8:00 PM VMTA Cocktail Party (Pryors Porch)

Sunday, July 19

- 8:30 – 9:30 VMTA Continental Breakfast (Skyline)
- 9:00–10:45 Workshop #7—Erica Sipes—*Transforming the Practice Room Mindset, Lecture/Masterclass* (Skyline)
- 9:00–12:00 Exhibit Hall open (Skyline)
- 11:00–12:00 Coffee Concert—WPA Academy Students and Wintergreen Festival Orchestra Players (Dunlop)
Coffee will be served during the performance
- 12:00 PM Close of Conference

VMTA Conference Fees

- Conference Fee for VMTA members—\$100 (\$80 if registered by May 1) or \$40 per day
- Conference Fee for Non-members (general)—\$120 (\$50 per day)
- Conference Fee for full time college students—FREE
- Workshop fee for Non-members—\$20 per workshop
- Workshop Fee for holders of the WSMF Season Pass Holder—Free
- WSMF Individual Tickets...concerts during the conference FREE for VMTA Conference Attendees; daily attendees and guests receive 25% discount on tickets during the conference. All other WSMF concerts—25% discount for Conference attendees.
- WSMF Season Pass for VMTA members attending the Conference—25% discount

What do the attendees get for their registration?

Full registration—In addition to all workshops, Thursday night concert, Friday night concert, Commissioned Composer concert, Academy concert, Saturday night concert, Breakfast for 3 mornings, heavy hors d'oeuvres cocktail party on Saturday night, Sunday coffee concert. Only one ticket will be given out for each concert. Members must buy additional tickets at 25% discount.

Daily rate—Breakfast on the morning they arrive, all daily activities are free, evening concert ticket can be purchased at a 25% discount.

New This Year! Bring a non-member friend and share a \$50 discount! When you register yourself and a non-member friend, you will both receive a \$25 rebate. Both participants must be paid full registration participants to qualify. ■

2015 Conference: Guest Artists & Workshops

GUEST ARTISTS ELISABETH ADKINS AND EDWARD NEWMAN



Elisabeth Adkins' richly varied musical life makes her equally at home in solo, orchestral, and chamber music repertoire. At the age of 25, she was awarded the position of Associate Concertmaster of the National Symphony Orchestra in Washington, D.C. by Music Director Mstislav Rostropovich. Over an orchestral career that spans three decades, she has worked

closely with the most celebrated conductors, composers and soloists of our time. Ms. Adkins has appeared with the NSO as concerto soloist on numerous occasions. She was featured with the Orchestra at the special request of the late Iona Brown, whom she joined in Bach's Concerto for Two Violins. She has appeared as soloist with the Dallas Symphony, the Seattle Symphony, and the Baltimore Symphony. Other performances include concertos by Beethoven, Bruch, Glazunov, Saint-Saëns, Mendelssohn, Mozart, Vivaldi, and Prokofiev. She premiered new concertos by Andreas Makris (with the National Symphony) and Tom Myron (with the Eclipse Chamber Orchestra).

Ms. Adkins collaborates with her husband, pianist Edward Newman, in a violin/piano duo beloved in the Washington area. Their National Gallery recital was chosen to inaugurate WETA's series Front Row Washington. In addition to frequent appearances at the Kennedy Center and throughout the mid-Atlantic region, the duo was featured at a special concert for both houses of Congress in the Capitol Rotunda.

Ms. Adkins is a noted interpreter of the contemporary repertoire. As solo violinist with the 21st Century Consort, directed by Christopher Kendall, she has premiered and recorded a number of works and is a favorite collaborator for many American composers. She serves as concertmaster of the Smithsonian Chamber Orchestra; several new CD projects recorded by the Smithsonian group and its director Kenneth Slowik are about to be released. Ms. Adkins was a founding member of the American Chamber Players, and recorded with the group on Koch International Classics. She has also served for many years as the concertmaster of the Eclipse Chamber Orchestra.

In great demand as teacher and coach, Ms. Adkins has been on the faculty of the University of Maryland, the Levine School, and the NSO's Youth Fellowship Program. Her positions on the faculty of both the NSO's Summer Music Institute and the National Orchestral Institute at UMD have allowed her to work with young people interested in pursuing orchestral careers.

In August of 2014, after thirty-one seasons with the NSO, Ms. Adkins left the orchestra to join the faculty of Texas Christian University School of Music in Fort Worth. She welcomes the opportunity to focus on teaching and training at the college and graduate level, while continuing to perform solo and chamber music. She is also serving as concertmaster for the Corpus Christi Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of her early mentor, John Giordano. Ms. Adkins appeared with the orchestra in its opening concert this season, performing the Beethoven Violin Concerto.



Edward Newman started his musical career as a child prodigy in Rockville, Maryland, at the age of 5. Over the past 5 decades in the DC region, he has established a standard of excellence that is highly regarded by his peers and the press alike. Mr. Newman has given critically acclaimed performances in Europe, Australia and across the United States. In addition to solo concerts, he has appeared with orchestras such as the Cleveland Orchestra, the National Symphony, the Baltimore Symphony, the Boston Pops, the Utah Symphony, l'Orchestra du Bordeaux, l'Ensemble Instrumental de France and l'Orchestra Filharmonica de Gran Canaria. Over the course of his career, he has performed 29 different concertos with orchestra.

Mr. Newman won the first prize in the 1979 Robert Casadesus International Piano Competition. He was a semifinalist in the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition and has won recognition in many other prestigious international contests. These awards include 2nd prize in the Gina Bachauer International Piano Competition, 2nd prize in the University of Maryland International Piano Competition, and semifinalist in the Concurso Internacional de Piano "Paloma O'Shea" and the Sydney (Australia) International piano competitions.

From 1993 to 2003, Mr. Newman was the pianist for the American Chamber Players, an internationally touring chamber music group, and performed throughout the United States and Canada on the group's many tours. Recordings of his performances with the American Chamber Players are frequently broadcast on National Public Radio's "Performance Today." He appears often in recital with his wife, violinist Elisabeth Adkins, at such venues as the National Gallery and the Phillips Collection.

Mr. Newman received his Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from The Juilliard School and studied with such distinguished artists as Rosina Lhevinne, Adele Marcus, William Masselos, Lee Luvisi, Gaby Casadesus, Martin Isepp, Virginia Reinecke and Charles Crowder. ■

BARRY GREEN

Workshop: The Inner Game of Music

The Inner Game lecture-demonstration is about overcoming mental obstacles to performance, practicing and teaching through the master techniques of Awareness, Commitment and Trust. This session includes Green's humorous signature demonstration of his distracting inner voice plus live coaching demonstrations with individuals performing. Session presents the of Inner Game concentration techniques with the audience as well as Inner Game DVD excerpts with ensembles. Green's workshops engage the audience in lively group exercises in addition to spontaneous coaching of individuals that instantly transform a performers concentration from a place of doubt to a place of relaxed concentration.

2015 Conference: Guest Artists & Workshops

Workshop: Bringing Music to Life

Bringing Music to Life is an innovative imaginative methodology to bring spirit and life to music. The workshop parallels the Inner Game of music in that it teaches three master skills: Breath, Pulse and Movement that allow the performer to channel inspiration and life in music, through the body of the performer. The workshop includes live musical coaching demonstrations with groups and individuals. YouTube clips illuminate how famous jazz, hip-hop, Latin, classical and chamber music artist including Joshua Bell, Tito Puente, Oscar Petersen, Kronos String Quartet and maestro Leonard Bernstein use these master movement and breath techniques. Be prepared to model, imitate, conduct, jam, scat, move and groove as you recreate the music and bring it to life.

Workshop: Mastery of Music

This inspiration workshop includes live PowerPoint interviews from several of the 120 great artists each famous for expressing a special gift of their unique artistry. When you are honored, hired or eulogized, it is for the unique 'spirit' you bring to your life's work. Watch and hear Dave Brubeck, Joshua Bell, Bobby McFerrin, Frederico VonStade, Eddie Daniels and soul singer Nnenna Freelon share their insights to Creativity, Passion, Courage, Confidence, Tolerance, Discipline Humility, and Communication and Inspiration. This inspirational message highlights simple but unexpected pathways to mastering qualities of the human spirit that give you your unique voice.



Barry Green, a native Californian, served as Principal Bassist of the Cincinnati Symphony for 28 years, and more recently Principal Bassist of the California Symphony and 'Sun Valley, Idaho Summer Symphony. As former Executive Director of the International Society of Bassists, he is currently living in San Diego while teaching at the U. of Calif.

Santa Cruz and active as a bass soloist, clinician and motivational speaker. Examples of his lectures can be found on his website at: www.innergameofmusic.com.

Green was the first bass soloist ever to solo with the Cincinnati Symphony in 1970 when he commissioned Frank Proto to write the Concerto for Bass and Orchestra conducted by Erich Kunzel. He has since twice appeared with the Cincinnati Symphony under the late Maestro Thomas Schippers who personally commissioned the Frank Proto Violin and Double Bass Concerto (with Ruggiero Ricci). In 1993 Green performed Jon Deak's concerto Jack and the Beanstalk conducted by Jesus Lopez-Cobos. He most recently performed the Deak concerto in February 2005 with the US Air Force Band in Washington DC, Constitution Hall and Duluth Symphony. Barry is known for his creative and eclectic 'Green Machine' and "Green Man" concerts including the bass in jazz, folk, rock, funk, hip-hop contemporary and world music in combination with, dance, voice, art and theater.

Green has written three books on the 'mind-body and spirit' of performing musicians. He is author of the Doubleday book *The Inner Game of Music*, with W. Timothy Gallwey, and DVD (1986) which deals with musicians reaching their potential in performance and learning which has sold over 250,000 copies worldwide. He has written seven Inner Game of Music Workbooks published by GIA Music for keyboard, voice, instruments and ensembles. Green's 2nd book, *The Mastery of Music, Ten Pathways to True Artistry* was published by Broadway/Doubleday in May 2003. The *Mastery of Music* is based on interviews with over 120 world famous musicians on topics of courage, passion, creativity, discipline, humility etc. It deals with qualities of greatness from the human spirit that transcend all professions. Jazz and classical artists interviewed include Dave Brubeck, Bobby McFerrin, Joshua Bell, Frederica von Stade, Christopher Parkening, Evelyn Glennie, Gary Karr, Jeffrey Kahane and many more. Green's most recent book (and DVD) is called *Bringing Music to Life* and was published by GIA Music. The book is exploring three techniques of breath, pulse and movement that allow the musician to channel expression through their bodies. This work is based on exploring creativity and inspiration through collaboration with the great improvisation cellist David Darling and his organization called Music for People. ■

ARIANNA ZUKERMAN



Renowned for her pure, luminous, rich soprano, persuasive performances and dramatic ability, **Arianna Zukerman** is considered one of the premiere vocal artists of her generation. An artist in demand internationally for concert and opera performances, Ms. Zukerman is also an avid chamber musician, and regularly collaborates with some of today's foremost chamber players.

Ms. Zukerman is the featured soloist on the critically acclaimed, GRAMMY nominated 2013 Naxos recording of James Whitbourn's oratorio, *Annelies: the first major choral setting the Diary of Anne Frank*. The Guardian (UK) praised her performance on the CD, stating, "Arianna Zukerman sings with subdued beauty." This season she sings the New York City premiere of the work at Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center.

Ms. Zukerman's extensive career includes performances with an impressive group of conductors including James Levine, Charles Dutoit, Leonard Slatkin, Lorin Maazel, Ivor Bolton, Constantine Orbelian, Julian Wachner, Jane Glover, Lawrence Foster, Rossen Milanov, Marin Alsop, Pinchas Zukerman, Jose Luis Gomez, and Andrew Litton. She has worked with major orchestras worldwide, including the orchestras of Boston, Chicago, Minnesota, Dallas, Colorado, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, and Philadelphia, the Rochester Philharmonic and National Arts Centre Orchestra in North America, and with the English String Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic (UK), the Israel Philhar-

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2015 Conference: Guest Artists & Workshops

monic Orchestra, the Gulbenkian Foundation Orchestra and the Moscow Chamber Orchestra abroad. Ms. Zukerman has performed leading roles with the New York City Opera, Chicago Opera Theater, Arizona Opera, the Chattanooga Opera, the Berkshire Opera Company, and the Castleton Festival.

In her chamber music collaborations, she has worked with such esteemed artists as violinist Daniel Hope; pianists Benjamin Hochman, Ken Noda, Navah Perlman, Joy Schreier, and Brian Zeger; clarinetists Bharat Chandra, Alex Fiterstein, Patrick Messina, and Anthony McGill; flutist Eugenia Zukerman; the Miami String Quartet, and The Lincoln Trio.

Arianna Zukerman was born in New York City into a musical family. Her father is violinist/violist/conductor Pinchas Zukerman, her mother is flutist, writer and arts broadcaster, Eugenia Zukerman, and her sister Natalia Zukerman is an accomplished singer/songwriter. In addition to her busy performing schedule she maintains an active studio at the Catholic University of America, where she is an Adjunct Professor of Voice, and she gives master classes around the United States.

A past recipient of the Sullivan Foundation Award, Ms. Zukerman was a member of the Bavarian State Opera's Junges Ensemble. She studied theatre at Brown University and received her Bachelor of Music from the Juilliard School. She resides with her family in Greater Washington, DC. ■

TED COOPER

Workshop: The Blank Slate: First-Year Piano Technique and Student Repertoire: The Right Piece at the Right Time

This session will focus on the skills, habits and attitudes necessary to establish a solid technical foundation during the first year of study. Video clips from group and private lessons will illustrate teaching strategies that establish and maintain high standards with beginning students.

Choosing repertoire is one of the most important decisions we make. Finding that perfect next piece is crucial and can work magic with our students. It can transform a student who likes piano study to someone who loves it. This session will present elementary and intermediate piano repertoire by Ted Cooper that was written with this purpose in mind.



Ted Cooper is a piano teacher and a composer of educational music for the piano. Ted's interest in composing grew out of his teaching and the need for effective and musical repertoire for his students. Ted's compositions are published by Alfred and Carl Fischer.

His most recent works, *Storm Chaser*, *Clash of the Sabers*, *Noche del Gitano*, and *Around the World on 88 Keys—Books 1 and 2* are published by Alfred, as is *Side by Side*, a four-volume series of duets for student and teacher. His compositions are included on the festival lists of the National Federation of Music Clubs and the Music Teachers Association of California. Ted is a member of ASCAP.

Since 2003, Ted has been a faculty member at the Levine School of Music in Washington, DC, where he maintains a full-time teaching schedule. Before moving to Washington, he spent 14 years at the New School for Music Study—founded by Frances Clark in Princeton, New Jersey—as faculty member, and later as Director.

Ted is a frequent conference speaker. He has presented at the Music Teachers National Association Conference in 2009, 2006, 2005, 2004, 2003, and 2002. Videotapes of his teaching have been featured at the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy in Chicago. Ted has also presented at state conferences and at local association meetings.

As an author, he has contributed articles to *Keyboard Companion*, and has served as educational consultant for the Frances Clark Library for Piano Students. He is a recipient of the Group Piano Teaching Award presented jointly by the Music Teachers National Association and the National Piano Foundation.

Ted earned his Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts degrees from Western Illinois University, where he studied pedagogy with Ann Collins. He also earned a Professional Teaching Certificate with distinction from the New School for Music Study, where he was a student of Frances Clark and Louise Goss.

For more information, visit www.tedcooperpiano.com ■

MICHAEL WHITE

Workshop: Schubert Piano Music



Michael White was born in Chicago and received his musical education at the Juilliard School, where he studied with Peter Mennin and Vincent Persichetti. He has composed music in virtually every medium, with an emphasis on vocal works. He has received multiple awards and grants for his compositions, including three Ford Foundation Fellowships and a Guggenheim Fellowship; grants have come from the Soros Foundation, the Fels Foundation, the Arts Councils of New York and Pennsylvania, ASCAP, the Oberlin Conservatory and UNESCO.

Mr. White has lectured extensively for the New York Philharmonic, the New York Youth Symphony, and for several music festivals, including those in Brunswick, Maine; Rockport, Massachusetts; and Long Island, New York, among others. He has written articles on various musical subjects for the *Seattle Times*, the *Philadelphia Post-Intelligencer*, the *Musical Review* and other journals. He has taught on the faculties of the Oberlin Conservatory and the Philadelphia Musical Academy, where he was chairman of the composition and theory department. Since 1979, he has been a member of the graduate faculty at the Juilliard School, where for 10 years he served as chair of the Department of Literature and Materials of Music. ■

2015 Conference: Guest Artists & Workshops

ANN CYPTAR

Workshop: Protecting and Healing the Voice and the Miracle of the Straw

Ms Cyptar's talk will focus on laryngeal/vocal anatomy and physiology, specifically for the professional singer and voice student. She will discuss ways to promote good vocal health and what can go wrong when we don't take care of our voices. In addition, she will discuss and how vocal fold heal when they are injured.

Ann Cyptar, M.S., CCC-SLP, is a Voice/Speech Pathologist at Riverside Regional Medical Center in Newport News, VA. She is certified by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and received her M.S. in Speech-Language Pathology at the University of North Carolina. Ms. Cyptar is a member of various professional organizations including ASHA's special interest division on voice and voice disorders. She has over 20 years of experience and presents regionally on vocal health issues and on various types of voice problems. Ms. Cyptar specializes in the diagnosis and rehabilitation of the injured voice in singers, actors, teachers, and others who use their voice for their occupation. She has personal experience in vocal performance as a classically trained singer and sings in a local choral group. ■

BRIAN THROCKMORTON



Brian Throckmorton's music has been performed in many cities across the U.S. and Canada. His interest in choral writing and arranging stems from singing under the direction of Hope Armstrong Erb with the Glee Club of St. Christopher's School in his hometown of Richmond, Virginia. He has also sung for many years with the chorus and madrigal singers of Georgetown University in Washington, DC, and the Lexington Singers in Lexington, Ky. He was composer-in-residence for the Lexington Men's Chorus, which commissioned works including a dramatic choral setting of "The Bell," a Hans Christian Andersen story; "Crossing the Ohio," a suite on the contemporary meaning of the Underground Railroad; and an a cappella arrangement of "The Star-Spangled Banner." Some of his compositions have been published by Yelton Rhodes Music. ■

PHILLIP KEVEREN

Workshop: Supplemental Repertoire That Inspires and Prepares

Mr. Keveren will give a guided tour through new piano music in "The Phillip Keveren Series" (Hal Leonard Publishing). These pedagogically sound supplemental books feature pianistic settings of a wide variety of genres and levels.



A multi-talented keyboard artist and composer, **Phillip Keveren** displays a tremendous versatility in both his original works and concert performances. He composes in a variety of genres, and is widely acclaimed for his piano publications.

Mr. Keveren is a prolific arranger, orchestrator and producer. His work is featured in numerous instrumental recordings, church choral, educational piano and Christian artist releases. Phillip is co-author, major composer and orchestrator of the internationally acclaimed Hal Leonard Student Piano Library, a complete method of study for young students. His unique piano arrangements are also featured in The Phillip Keveren Series (Hal Leonard Publishing).

Mr. Keveren holds a Bachelor of Music in Composition from California State University, Northridge, and a Master of Music in Composition from the University of Southern California. He and his wife Lisa live in Brentwood, Tennessee and are parents of two grown children, Lindsay and Sean. ■

ERICA SIPES

Workshop: Transforming the Practice Room Mindset—Lecture/Master Class

Pianist, piano collaborator, and professional practice coach, Erica Sipes, leads students and teachers on a journey to discover how to break out of the traditional practice room mindset in order to head down a new path that teaches mindfulness, problem solving, effective use of time, and goal setting. Included in the session will be live practice coaching with participants to help demonstrate how to evaluate, quarantine and solve a troubling passage quickly, painlessly, and musically.



A graduate of the Eastman School of Music with her bachelor's and master's degrees in piano performance, **Erica Sipes** has developed a passion for helping musicians at all stages refine their practice techniques. As a piano collaborator she works with both instrumentalists and vocalists and has gained insight into the challenges we all face in the practice room. In the summer of 2012 she started her own practice coaching business, Beyond the Notes, where she offers practice boot-camps, practice planning sessions, and coachings to musicians of all ages and at all stages. She also offers workshops and master classes for teachers and students. She has published a book, *Inspired Practice—Motivational Tips and Quotes to Inspire Thoughtful Musicians*, which has been called by one of her readers a "daily practice devotional." Erica's thoughts about practicing, teaching, and performing can also be found on her blog, "Beyond the Notes," which has gained worldwide recognition and is listed as required reading for a course taught at the

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2015 Conference: Guest Artists & Workshops

Juilliard School of Music. Her blog can be found at <http://ericaansipes.blogspot.com>. ■

ERIN FREEMAN



Hailed by the press as engaging, elegant, and entertaining, **Erin Freeman** is the newly appointed Artistic Director of Wintergreen Performing Arts, where she leads the artistic endeavors of the Wintergreen Summer Music Festival and the associated Wintergreen Summer Music Academy.

This season, Erin Freeman also joins the faculty of VCU Music as Director of Choral Activities, a newly created joint position co-sponsored by the Richmond Symphony, where she continues as Director of the Richmond Symphony Chorus. This appointment comes on the heels of a successful seven years as the Richmond Symphony's Associate Conductor, and will include overseeing all of the choral ensembles at VCU as well as vocal chamber music, and preparing the 150-voice Richmond Symphony Chorus for all of its performances.

As Associate Conductor and Chorus Director of the Richmond Symphony from 2007–2014, Freeman conducted subscription concerts, led the Pops and Lollipops Series, spearheaded the Symphony's education initiatives, including its four youth orchestras, and directed the 150-voice symphony chorus. She collaborated with soloists such as Jamie Bernstein, Elena Uriosti, Arturo Sandoval, Marietta Simpson, Joseph Conyers, Patti Austin, and Maureen McGovern, and in 2012, Freeman prepared the Richmond Symphony Chorus for an historic performance and recording of Mahler Symphony No. 8 with the Virginia Symphony, under the direction of JoAnn Falletta.

A frequent guest conductor throughout the country, Freeman maintains an association with the Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus, for whom she has served as Music Director, and with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, where she has been a frequent guest conductor. This year, she will conduct the BPO and BPC in their popular Classical Christmas program. She has also been a Guest Conductor for the South Carolina Philharmonic, the Savannah Symphony, the Richmond Ballet, and other ensembles in Maryland, Virginia, Georgia, Missouri, and Illinois. And, in summer 2015, she will conduct Dvorak's Stabat Mater at the Berkshire Choral Festival.

Passionate about making classical music accessible to all, Freeman has led programs from the Richmond Symphony's ground breaking Come and Play, resulting in a community orchestra of over 650, to Celebrity Maestro, for which she taught conducting lessons to such notables as Miss America Caressa Cameron and Richmond Mayor Dwight Jones. She has served as Director of Orchestras at Baltimore School for the Arts and American University, Conductor at Northwestern University's National High School Music Institute, Lecturer for the National Philharmonic and Baltimore Symphony, Music Director of the Richmond Philharmonic, and Resident Conductor at Peabody Conservatory. She has instructed national seminars for the Conductor's Guild and serves on their board of directors as Vice President.

Winner of numerous awards, including the Women's Philharmonic Conducting Scholarship, Freeman was selected by Virginia Lawyer's Weekly as one of Virginia's 50 most influential women. With degrees from Northwestern University, Boston University, and Peabody Conservatory, she has studied and performed in masterclasses with Gustav Meier, Victor Yampolsky, Markand Thakar, Helmuth Rilling, Murry Sidlin, and Robert Shaw. ■

2015 Conference: Directions to Wintergreen

Due to the difficulty with mapping high-altitude roads with GPS and online mapping websites (MapQuest, Google Maps Directions, etc.), we recommend you use the following directions:

From areas northeast: From I-66, take Exit 43a (Gainesville, Rt. 29 South). Follow 29 South to I-64 West (in Charlottesville). Take I-64 West to Exit 107 (Crozet, Rt. 250) Take 250 West to Rt. 151 South, turn left. Follow Rt. 151 South to Rt. 664, 14.2 miles. Turn right and Wintergreen is 4.5 miles ahead on Rt. 664.

From areas east: Take I-64 West to Exit 107 (Crozet, Rt. 250) Take 250 West to Rt. 151 South, turn left. Follow Rt. 151 South to Rt. 664, 14.2 miles. Turn right and Wintergreen is 4.5 miles ahead on Rt. 664.

From areas south: Take Rt. 29 North to Rt. 151 North, turn left. Follow Rt. 151 for 21 miles to Rt. 664. Turn left and Wintergreen is 4.5 miles ahead on Rt. 664.

From areas west, northwest and southwest: Take I-81 to I-64 East to Exit 99 (Afton, Rt. 250). Take Rt. 250 East to Rt. 151 South, turn right. Follow Rt. 151 South to Rt. 664, 14.2 miles. Turn right and Wintergreen is 4.5 miles ahead on Rt. 664.

From the Blue Ridge Parkway: Take the Reeds Gap exit (between mileposts 13 and 14). Go east on Rt. 664 one mile to the Wintergreen entrance on your left. It is a beautiful and historic parkway and provides an alternate route get to Wintergreen. Please note that during the winter the Parkway is not plowed and is frequently closed. We also do not recommend the Parkway when there is fog. Please use an alternate route.

GPS Address: Again, we recommend use of the above directions before GPS, but if you do use it, please use Wintergreen Dr. Roseland, VA. If any mapping directions take you on the Blue Ridge Parkway, please read the notes under the directions above.

Precise GPS Coordinates: X: 37.9043 Y: -78.9692 ■

2015 Conference: Be Inspired!

Competition winners will be conducted by Wintergreen Performing Arts new director Erin Freeman. There are two more concerts during the day on Saturday: the commissioned composer concert, and a vocal recital featuring the Wintergreen Academy students. Immediately following the 6:00 PM Saturday concert will be a cocktail party just for VMTA Conference attendees featuring a cash bar and heavy hors d'oeuvres. All six concerts are free to VMTA Conference attendees. One guest of each attendee will be able to purchase tickets at a 25% discount. Exception: Commissioned Composer concert and Academy Concert are free to all.

We have some wonderful clinicians including Ann Cyptar, vocal pathologist, Ted Cooper from Alfred Publishing and Phillip Keveren from Hal Leonard Publishing. Erica Sipes, author of *Inspired Practice—Motivational Tips and Quotes to Inspire Thoughtful Musicians* will be doing a special lecture/masterclass on Sunday morning for piano students so be sure to stay through Sunday. We have also scheduled IMTF and Collegiate meetings. For more information, check out the schedule below.

There will be an exhibit hall, including Music & Arts, so conference attendees will be able to buy music and browse all exhibitors.

Attention Local Chapter Presidents and Executive Committee members—There will be a Presidents Summit on Thursday, July 16, 10:00 am–3:00 pm in the Windsong room. This will replace the Friday Presidents lunch.

Take advantage of **Early Bird Registration!** If you register by May 1, you save \$20. To register for the Conference, go to www.virginiamta.org and either download the registration form and send with your check, or you may register online with Paypal.

Don't forget to make your room reservation at Wintergreen Resort as soon as possible, as the number of rooms is limited. **Call 800-611-6888 and ask for the VMTA rate.**

Special resort rates for VMTA (valid during the conference, and two days before and/or after):

- Single accommodation room: \$119 (plus taxes)
- One bedroom condo: \$139 (plus taxes)

For some pictures of the resort, visit:
www.flickr.com/photos/wintergreenresort/

For a map of the resort, visit:
www.wintergreenresort.com/brochures

Frequently Asked Questions

Can the resort accommodate mobility issues? Yes! A golf cart will be available to shuttle attendees to and from events in order to avoid stairs and steep hills. Even better, there are service elevators which can be used by those with mobility issues. Let us know in advance if you will be needing this service. Only VMTA can ask for this service so indicate this on your registration form. In addition, when making your room reservation, be sure to ask for a first floor room.

Does the resort take pets? No, the resort doesn't take pets.

Can I bring guests to the conference? Yes! We encourage our conference attendees to bring family and friends along. There are many activities and events your guests will enjoy while you're attending the conference. Be sure to buy a ticket for your guest if they want to attend any of the concerts offered for free to conference attendees. A 25% discount will be offered and tickets can be purchased at the booth in the lobby of the Mountain Inn. In addition, VMTA is offering a special incentive this year to bring your non-member friends to the conference. When you register yourself and a non-member friend, you will both receive a \$25 rebate. Both participants must be paid full registration participants to qualify.

Can Conference attendees go to other Wintergreen Festival events? Yes! You can arrive early to the conference or stay later, and there are many Festival events not included in your conference fee, such as cooking classes, interpretive hikes and other performances. Visit www.wintergreenfestival.com for a full schedule of events (schedule will be posted in April). Remember, Conference attendees receive discounts to Festival events! (exceptions may apply, so ask when purchasing tickets)

Have other questions? Feel free to contact Susan Atkins, VMTA President-elect at pianolearningcenter@gmail.com or 757-282-8220 (cell). ■



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Reports

2015 SOUTHERN DIVISION COMPETITION RESULTS VIRGINIA

Paulo Steinberg, NCTM, VMTA President

Dear VMTA Members,

I am pleased to report the results of the 2015 Southern Division Competitions, which took place at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville this weekend.

Virginia was really well represented—6 winners and 5 honorable mentions! I'm so proud of our students, parents and teachers. Congratulations to all!

2015 Southern Division Competition Results

Junior Composition

Winner: Kevin Su

Teacher: Marjorie Lee

Junior Performance Piano

HM: Eric Lin

Teacher: Marjorie Lee

Junior Performance String

Winner: Jason Hwang (cello)

Teacher: Dana McComb

Junior Performance Woodwind

HM: Jean Kim (oboe)

Teacher: Yeong Kim

Senior Performance Piano

HM: Evelyn Mo

Teachers: Thomas Mastroianni and John O'Connor

Senior Performance Voice

Winner: Nikole James (soprano)

Teacher: Margaret McNulty

Senior Performance Woodwind

Winner: Drake Stoughton (sax)

Teacher: Timothy Roberts

Senior Piano Duet

Winners: Katie Bode/Muli Yu

Teachers: Marjorie Lee and Rosita Mang

Young Artist Performance Piano

Winner: Min Ji Lee

Teacher: John O'Connor

Young Artist Performance Woodwind

HM: Jacob Moyer (clarinet)

Teacher: Garrick Zoeter

■

Certification Profile: Ann Lee

by Anne James, NCTM



“I write reviews for the *Music References Quarterly* and I noticed that everyone who wrote an article for *The American Music Teacher* was certified. I went to the MTNA website and printed out all the information about becoming certified. I went over it with a fine toothed comb and I jumped in. I found there is easily accessible help by email from the MTNA staff. I worked on it for about a year and became certified in February, 2014.”

Alexandria teacher Ann Lee has been writing for the *Quarterly* for about three years after completing her Master’s in Piano Performance with Linda Monson at George Mason University. She continues to coach with her chamber music professor, Anna Balakerskaia, and Lee participates in fundraising performances for the Steinways at Mason.

The Northern Virginia native holds an undergraduate degree in philosophy from American University. Although she had been teaching piano since age 13, Ann Lee contemplated attending law school after graduation. After sampling the profession through work in a law office, she decided to return to her original profession. Her class of 30 students ranges from 5 to 72.

“The things I think are really important—technique, theory, certain repertoire—are non-negotiable. Beyond that I cater to the individual student. I accompany at a private school, which is how many students get to know me. I have some with learning disabilities, some who do many things, etc. I try to be very flexible. I have monthly performance groups when they have to play, theory classes, recitals and festivals.”

“My certification has spurred my involvement with NVMTA. I am Editor for the NVMTA monthly newsletter and I conduct interviews of the member of the month. I am also Keyboard Skills and Sightreading Chair for NVMTA. Getting to work with these time-tested materials has upped my game.”

“My philosophy is that music is for everyone, while reaching for excellence. My favorite thing is to watch them create something beautiful and compelling and gain an awareness of style and aesthetics. I believe in telling kids that my job is to help them have fun with the parts that come easily and bolster the parts that are more challenging. I like to be clear with them about our goals. I work very hard but it hardly feels like work.”

“I’m a better teacher when I’m learning new music myself. Certification was great because you have to define what you’re doing and why.” ■

music@tech
www.performingarts.vt.edu

Virginia Tech welcomes Amy Gillick, bassoon and Brian Thorsett, voice as new artist-teachers to our music faculty for the 2014–15 academic year!

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